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Computational results on tight composite knots.

We report on recent large scale computer experiments on finding "tight" or "ideal" configurations for composite knots. Included will be a discussion of various local minima for the ropelength functional on knots discovered during our experiments. We will also discuss how our results support and challenge existing conjectures on the writhe and ropelength of composite knots. (Received September 20, 2010)